**Steering Committee Conference Call: February 23, 2016**

**Participants**

Adria Elskus (USGS), Jawed Hameedi (NOAA), Jim Latimer (EPA), Pete Murdoch (USGS), Kathryn Parlee (ECCC), and Christine Tilburg (GOMC)

**1. ICUC release!**

The ICUC smartphone app was released on February 22. An ESIP journal entry introduced the app. A message was also sent out through the GOMC and ESIP lists. Susan Russell-Robinson sent information out through her contacts. Jim Latimer and Kathryn Parlee also sent information out. Adria Elskus had a question about seeing the different layers on the app and Christine Tilburg described how to move between layers. Adria wondered if that “How To Use” part of the app could be more obvious. Christine stated that this might be a possibility for Phase 2 (***Action to be taken: Add to potential changes in Phase 2 of the app).***

**2. Annual Meeting**

Christine then confirmed that the annual meeting will be held in Portland, Maine on May 24. Christine mentioned that she is willing to pick people up at the Downeaster/train station. Pete Murdoch asked if the meeting is normally a full day. Christine stated that the meeting usually starts mid-morning and end mid-afternoon so that people can travel home.

**3. Many meetings**

The group then discussed some of the meetings coming up and potential presenters.

* March 23-24: NEAEB (New England Association of Environmental Biologists) in Rockland, Maine. Abstract has been submitted. The focus of the presentation will be indicators and highlighting the ESIP indicators that intersect environmental biology.
* March 29: Maine Sustainable Waters Conference in Augusta, Maine: Christine and Adria discussed potentially doing a joint poster. Poster abstracts are due March 7.
* April 9: Penobscot Watershed Conference. ESIP has been asked to present at this weekend conference**. *(Action to be taken: Reconnect with Catherine Schmitt).***
* April 14-16: NEERS (New England Estuarine Research Society) in York, Maine. Abstract has been submitted. The focus of the presentation will be the EPA/ORD project and the smartphone app. Both Christine and Jim Latimer will be presenting. Jim stated that he hopes there is time to also discuss ecosystem services. Both Christine and Jim like that NEERS is somewhat more casual than other meetings and good discussions are often had after talks.
* May 6: Presentation at the NEIWPCC (New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission) board meeting in Portland, Maine.
* June 8-10: BoFEP (Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership) meeting in Fredericton, NB. Abstract due March 31. Kathryn Parlee will be presenting this talk.
* June 12-16: Coastal Zone Canada meetings in Toronto. Abstract has been submitted and will be presented by Jim Latimer.
* June 13-14: NAC-SETAC (North Atlantic Chapter Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry). Adria can present at this meeting. ***(Action to be taken: Work on NAC-SETAC abstract).***
* Kathryn also mentioned Oceans Day (June 8) as another date to get information out regarding the smartphone app. Kathryn stated she will follow up on the Canadian side. Christine agreed to try to find a US contact**. *(Action to be taken: Connect with Matt Liebman to try to find a US contact).***

**4. March discussion preparation**

Pete Murdoch, Kathryn Parlee, Jim Latimer and Christine have a call scheduled to discuss the recent EPA webinars. Follow-up from their discussion will include materials for the next Steering Committee conference call. Jawed Hameedi asked if anyone on the call is familiar with the Northeast Ocean Plan efforts (http://neoceanplanning.org/). Jawed stated that a report is being released for public comment on March 11. Christine wondered how the Northeast Ocean Plan intersects with the Integrated Sentinel Monitoring effort. Pete stated that he thinks the Northeast Ocean Plan has a much larger scope.

**Next Steering Committee Call: March 29, 2016**